

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 05401 091621Z
ACTION EUR-12

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P 091555Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1063
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR, GR, YO, US
SUBJ: PRESS REPORT ABOUT NEW AMERICAN AMBASSADORS TO ATHENS AND
BELGRADE

1. ON JUNE 9, OPPOSITION, LIBERAL TO VIMA CARRIED A STORY DATED WASHINGTON, JUNE 8, "SPECIAL SERVICE," ENTITLED "THE NEW US AMBASSADOR TO ATHENS CLOSE COLLABORATOR OF KISSINGER--ALSO THE NEW ONE IN BELGRADE." THE ARTICLE SAID THE GENTLEMEN IN QUESTION ARE MESSRS SCHAUFELD AND EAGLEBURGER. IT QUOTED FROM RECENT ARTICLES IN LE MONDE, WHICH DISCUSSED THE REASSIGNMENT OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS SCHAUFELD, AND TIME MAGAZINE, WHICH HAD A RECENT ARTICLE ON LARRY EAGLEBURGER WHO, TO VIMA ADDS, WAS JUST CONFIRMED AS AMBASSADOR TO YUGOSLAVIA. SCHAUFELD AND EAGLEBURGER ARE DESCRIBED AS CLOSE COLLABORATORS OF FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER WHO HAD BEEN PERSONALLY IDENTIFIED WITH KISSINGER'S POLICY.

2. TO VIMA STATED THAT THE WASHINGTON POST AND LE MONDE HAD CORROBORATED AN EARLIER TO VIMA REPORT THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFELD WOULD BE NAMED AS AMBASSADOR TO ATHENS. IT THEN DRAWS ON THE RECENT ARTICLE IN LE MONDE BY HENRI PIERRE WHICH DISCUSSED CHANGES IN THE BUREAU OF AFRICAN AFFAIRS OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT. LIKE LE MONDE, TO VIMA ALLEGED THAT A GROUP OF PRESIDENT

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CARTER'S ADVISERS ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS CONSIDERED ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFELD TO BE "UNDESIRABLE" AND "SUSPECT" BECAUSE OF HIS ATTACHMENT TO KISSINGER AND HIS AFRICAN POLICY WHICH WAS BASED ON AMERICAN SOLIDARITY WITH "WHITE AFRICA."

3. THE COMMENTS CONCERNING AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE EAGLEBURGER WERE BASED ON A RECENT TIME MAGAZINE ARTICLE AND CHARACTERIZED HIM AS

THE "BOY WONDER" OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT WHO IS CALLED "LAWRENCE OF MACEDONIA" BY HIS COLLEAGUES. TO VIMA NOTES PARENTHETICALLY THAT MR. EAGLEBURGER HAD BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR ADMINISTERING U.S. ASSISTANCE TO THE VICTIMS OF THE SKOPJE EARTHQUAKE IN 1963 WHEN HE WAS A SECOND SECRETARY AT THE EMBASSY IN BELGRADE. IT STATED FURTHER THAT, ACCORDING TO TIME, DESPITE HIS MANY RECOGNIZED GOOD DIPLOMATIC QUALITIES, EAGLEBURGER HAS THE DISADVANTAGE OF HAVING BEEN THE "RIGHT HAND" AND "POINT" OF KISSINGER.

4. THE TO VIMA STORY HAS SO FAR BEEN PICKED UP BY ONLY TWO OTHER ATHENS DAILIES. ITS SISTER AFTERNOON NEWSPAPER TA NEA (OPPOSITION, LEFTIST) REPRODUCED PRACTICALLY THE FULL TEXT OF THE TO VIMA ARTICLE. ANOTHER AFTERNOON PAPER, LEFTIST ELEFTHEROTYPIA, IN A SHORT ARTICLE DATEDLINE WASHINGTON, JUNE 9 (THOUGH IT WAS MORE LIKELY BASED ON THE TO VIMA STORY OF THIS MORNING), REFERRED TO THE REPORTS IN THE WASHINGTON POST AND LE MONDE CONCERNING MR. SCHAUFELE AND TO THE TIME MAGAZINE STORY ABOUT MR. EAGLEBURGER, POINTING OUT THAT THEY WERE BOTH COLLABORATORS OF FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER.

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Sent Date: 09-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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